

DAY 6

Isaiah 40:8 NLT

If you step outside, chances are high you won't see much that's been around for more than just a few years. The flowers were probably planted recently, the grass might've been trimmed last week, and even the trees are relatively young compared to the rest of creation! The only thing we can be sure will last forever? The only thing that sticks around until the end? God's Word! God's truths have been around since the beginning of time, and they'll remain until the end. By reading the Bible, we can learn more about what God has to say—not just yesterday or today, but tomorrow as well.

Take a moment to look outside today and thank God for the way God's creation reminds you of what is true.

DAY 7

Psalms 119:105 NIV

Why do we read the Bible? While you could probably answer that question in a million different ways, one of the biggest reasons we turn to Scripture is to grow in our faith. The more we read, the more we learn about God. The more we learn about God, the more we come to know who God really is. And the more we know about who God really is, the more our faith in God will grow! Pretty cool, right?

This week, challenge yourself to start memorizing this verse. To begin, write each word of this verse on a note card or a sticky note. Mix all the words up, and then, try to put the words back together in the correct order! Keep practicing this until you can place the words in the correct order to memorize the verse!

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

FOR AN
everyday faith.

COMPASS / WEEK 1

MIDDLE SCHOOL

DAY 1

2 Timothy 3:16-17 NLT

Whether you're doing a job or playing a sport, if you don't have the right equipment or tools, it will be hard to do it well. God gave us the Bible as a tool to help us live this life. To live it according to God's unique plan for us. The more we read and memorize Scripture, the more we can apply what we know from it to our lives. And the more we do that, chances are we will become better at life.

Challenge yourself to spend time reading a little bit of the Bible this week. As you read, think about how what you read relates to your own life. How can what you're reading help you be better at life?

DAY 2

James 1:22a NLT

Reading the Bible helps us better understand who God is and what God wants for our lives. But simply reading it isn't a magic fix for our problems. We can't just go to the Bible with a problem or struggle and expect what we've read to just suddenly help us. We have to apply God's Word to our lives. We have to take in what we've read and actually do what it says. The more we actually practice what we've learned in the Bible, the more we're putting our faith into action by doing what God calls us to do.

Talk to a friend, small group leader, or other trusted adult in your life today. Ask them to help you brainstorm some ways you can apply what you're reading in Scripture this week to your own life.

DAY 3

Psalm 119:34 NLT

God knows that sometimes the Bible can be difficult for us to understand. That's why God didn't leave us to figure it out on our own! In the Bible, God promises to give us the understanding we need to not only understand what we're reading but to apply it to our lives. Through God's Spirit at work in us, we'll find help to understand what we're reading. All we have to do is ask for it!

So today, before you read the Bible, ask God to give you the understanding you need. Pray that your eyes would be opened to what God's trying to teach you and that you'd understand how to apply it to your life.

DAY 4

Matthew 7:24 NIV

Have you ever built something out of blocks or Legos? If you have, then you know just how important the foundation is. It's what supports the entire structure you're building! Most things built on a strong foundation are going to stay standing, no matter what difficulties may come. And the same is true for our lives! When we make God's Word the foundation—the thing that supports and keeps us steady—we know we'll be able to stay standing no matter what challenges may come our way in life.

Is there a struggle you're facing right now? Ask an adult you trust, like a parent or a small group leader, to share a verse that can help you build your foundation as you navigate through it.

DAY 5

Romans 15:4 NLT

Written by Matthew, age 17, from Sanford, Florida, USA

What's the first thing you think of when it comes to reading the Bible? For years of my life, I saw it as a task or just another thing to do. But in the past few years, I have learned to love reading the Bible. I love it because I can learn from it. I learn more about Jesus and what He did for me. The Bible isn't just history or stories. It is something that we can learn from. Everything in the Bible is there for us to learn and grow from. The Bible is something that can truly change our lives. The author of Romans, Paul, teaches us that the Bible was written long ago for a purpose, which is to teach and encourage us. When we read the Bible to learn, rather than to just read it as a task, we gain hope and encouragement. We learn that we have a purpose in life. Because the Bible is not just a textbook, it is how we can learn more about God.

So today, spend time reading the Bible. Ask your small group leader, parent, or friend for a suggestion of where to start. As you read, look for one new thing you didn't already know about God.